

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM), AT 6.30 PM ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor, Cllr N Bastow (Chairman)  
Cllrs: G Baker, C Brockley, G Campbell, H Fleet, C Hughes, MA Jones, M Jones, A Khan, A Mason, J Pearson, P Richards, K Swindon, M Tasker, M Worth

**OFFICERS:** Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk and RFO  
Miss Louise Austin, Administrative Assistant

**163/20 Apologies for Absence:**

- a) A minutes silence was held in memory of Councillor Bob Barton who had sadly passed away recently.
- b) It was noted that the council vacancy notice has now been received from the CCBC Electoral Officer and will be published later this week. Electors in Eirias ward will then have 14 days to call for an election.
- c) Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: G Howcroft-Jones, D Jones, H Meredith, and County Councillor C Carlisle.
- d) ***Resolved to approve an extended leave of absence, on the grounds of health and/or covid-19, for Cllrs G Howcroft-Jones and H Meredith, for a further 6 month period (to end of June 2021).***

**164/20 Announcements:**

The Mayor informed members that he had switched on the Tree of Lights in Rhos on Sea earlier in the month. The event had been shared online, due to the current pandemic, and donations to St David's Hospice can be made online.

**165/20 Declarations of Interest:**

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal and/or prejudicial interests. None were declared.

**166/20 Minutes:**

- a) ***Resolved to receive, approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of:***
  - i) ***The last ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020.***
  - ii) ***The Special Meeting, held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.***
- b) ***Resolved to receive and note the minutes of the following meetings:***
  - i) ***The General Purpose & Planning Committee meetings, held on 27<sup>th</sup> October and 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (draft).***
  - ii) ***The Policy & Finance Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (draft).***

**iii) *The Colwyn in Bloom Committee, held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (draft).***

**c) Pandemic Crises Response Team (PCRT):** It was noted that the PCRT continues to meet monthly and the notes are forwarded to all members.

***Resolved to formally receive the notes and to ratify the urgent decisions taken by the team at the meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> October and 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020.***

**167/20 Matters Arising from Those Minutes:**

**a) Min. 105/20 – 20mph Zones:** The Clerk tabled a full response from Andrew Wilkinson, CCBC Head of Neighbourhood Services, in relation to the Town Council's request for 20mph zones, which stated that "once the current set of school 20mph zones is complete, we (CCBC) do not intend to introduce any new 20mph zones ahead of the national scheme." It was noted that this was due to the timescale, cost and additional signage that would be required, which would not be necessary once the national scheme is implemented.

Members understood the additional cost implications of introducing any 20mph zones prior to the national roll-out, and it was noted that there would be 8 trial areas in Wales funded by the Welsh Government. Although it was noted that those areas with schools nearby would be a priority, Members queried if the trial areas had been decided, or if Colwyn Bay could be one of the trial areas.

***Resolved to request the Clerk asks Andrew Wilkinson if Colwyn Bay could be considered as one of the trial areas.***

**b) Min. 107/20(a) – Town Hall Works:**

(i) It was noted that a quote has been received from Brenig Construction to replace all gutters/downpipes with either UPVC or aluminium. It was also noted that advice subsequently received from the Planning Department, confirmed that refurbishment of the existing cast iron is preferable, from a listed building perspective, and also considered to be better value in the longer term.

(ii) It was noted that the Clerk has been instructed by the PCRT to seek advice from conservation architect(s) and bring a further report/quotations to a future meeting. A local firm has been contacted and an initial response is awaited.

The Clerk also informed members that a North Wales based builder, specialising in conservation works, was met on site last Thursday and will prepare a quotation in the New Year for the repair/refurbishment of the existing gutters and downpipes across the whole site.

Members asked if Grosvenor Construction (who are undertaking the current pier works) could be considered for refurbishment of the cast iron guttering. The Clerk confirmed that they had been contacted regarding the possible replacement of the

existing guttering, when that had been the preferred option.

***Resolved to request the Clerk contacts Grosvenor Construction again to query if they could assist with providing a quotation for refurbishment works on the cast iron guttering, and bring all quotations to a future meeting for full consideration.***

**c) Min. 115/20 – Forties Festival:** The Clerk submitted, for information, the notes from a recent meeting with the event organising team. It has proved a challenge to go ahead with planning for this event in its current format, due to the difficulties in restricting numbers to comply with any requirement for social distancing. The first test event for 500 people outside is not taking place until next Spring. It may make sense to delay to July and may still then be dependent on the success of the vaccinations/test events. An alternative small-scale event, linking to the launch of the Augmented Reality trail and including stories of local soldiers and a ration book with stamps to support local businesses, could also be considered.

***Resolved to receive the notes from the recent events meeting, and await a further update in the New Year from the Conwy Events team.***

**d) Min. 148/20 – Audit Wales:** The Clerk gave a brief verbal update regarding the Future Audit Arrangements for Town and Community Councils in Wales. The Wales Audit Office would be implementing a new audit regime where a Town/Community Council will receive a detailed, transactional based audit every three years, with a 'lighter touch' audit on the other two years. The Clerk was waiting for a list to be published by the WAO which will detail in which years the detailed/lighter touch audits will occur. A higher budget will be required for audit every third year.

***Resolved to note the update and await the 3-yearly cycle banding information.***

**e) Min. 149/20(a) – Community Wellbeing:**

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, a community wellbeing hub project proposal and asked members to consider allocating a new budget line for community wellbeing activities/projects.

***Resolved to endorse the recommendations of the Committee, as detailed in section 3 of the Community Wellbeing Discussion Paper.***

**f) Min. 153/20 – Small Grants:**

The Clerk submitted the schedule of Small Grants for Q3 for approval, as recommended by the Committee.

***Resolved to approve of the small grants to applicants A1 and B1, and approve in principle the payment to C1 once suitable alternative accommodation has been found, as detailed in Schedule 'A' attached.***

**g) Min. 149/20 – Colwyn in Bloom:**

Members were asked to consider the request for any underspend in the 2020/21 budget to be carried forward to 2021/22, and note the cancellation of the Britain in Bloom finals again for 2021.

***Resolved to approve the request and carry forward the underspend this year to the 2021/22 budget.***

**h) Min. 153/20(d) – Events Grant:**

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, a request from TAPE Music and Film to delay the Imagine Illuminations Festival which had been postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions.

***Resolved to approve the request from TAPE to delay the Imagine Illuminations festival.***

***i) Resolved to note the resolutions of the Committees, as detailed in the Minutes.***

**168/20 Welsh Government:**

***Resolved to receive and note the following correspondence:***

***a) Electoral Reform Newsletter (November 2020)***

***b) Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill (recently passed and awaiting Royal Assent in early 2021 and report by the Clerk highlighting the relevant sections.***

**169/20 Conwy CBC:**

a) The Clerk submitted, for consideration, notes from a recent meeting with the CCBC events team, regarding the events due to take place next year, and a request for continued funding support for major events for 2021/22. The Welsh Government guidance remains the same and no more test events are expected until the Spring. The Welsh Government retains control over all events but is looking at the possibility of transferring decision making to Safety Advisory Groups across Wales.

Prom Xtra, scheduled for May 2021, have put in an expression of interest to run this as a test event, but not yet had response. If the 2m social distancing remains in place, the event may need to be adjusted/moved to a confined location to control numbers, e.g. run as a ticketed 'fun day' in Eirias park. Two acts have been announced for the Access All Eirias concerts, with ticket sales going well, and discussions are ongoing regarding a possible third date (the promoter has made an offer for an act). The promoter is taking the risk on these going ahead, however, Eirias can accommodate large numbers even if social distancing is still required in August 2021.

***Resolved to approve continued funding support for major events for 2021/22 (£20,000 for Access all Eirias concerts and £10,000 for Prom Xtra).***

b) Members noted that the Open Spaces Covid-19 response grant has been approved and orders have now been placed for the power points, and eight branded cream gazebos will be delivered this week.

c) Members noted the Bay Life project update as at the 6<sup>th</sup> November, previously circulated by email.

**170/20 Community Plan Area Team:**

The Clerk submitted, for information, the notes from the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Members considered the appointment of new town council representative(s) for the Old Colwyn wards.

***Resolved to appoint Cllr A Mason as the Eirias ward representative, and Cllrs MA Jones and K Swindon to share the representation for Colwyn ward, going forward.***

***Further resolved to request the Clerk seeks approval from the Community Plan Steering Group to move the meetings back to an evening time to enable Councillors who are working to attend more easily.***

**171/20 Representatives on Outside Bodies:**

Consideration was given to the Town Council's vacant representation positions on outside organisations.

***Resolved to approve the appointment of the following Councillors to fill the vacant positions:***

***Cllr P Richards – 271 Air Training Cadets***

***Cllr G Baker – Conwy Admissions Forum***

***Cllr MA Jones – Fairy Glen Management Advisory Group***

***Cllr G Baker – N&MWALC***

***Cllr P Richards – N&MWALC (as Cllr H Meredith's reserve)***

***Cllr H Fleet – Wellbeing of Future Generations Champion and representative on the new Community Wellbeing Team.***

The meeting closed at 7.25pm.

..... Chairman